

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
WATER AND LAND
and
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Friday, March 24, 2017
2:46 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 88 / SENATE RESOLUTION 34
URGING THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CREATE A
MECHANISM FOR GENERATING WATER CIRCULATION
IN POKAI BAY ON LEEWARD OAHU**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 88 / Senate Resolution 34 urge the United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to collaborate to create a mechanism for generating water circulation in Pōkaʻī Bay on Leeward Oʻahu. **The Department acknowledges the intent of these measures but respectfully opposes these resolutions due to the lack of jurisdiction and funding.**

The intent of this measure is to address concerns with alleged environmental and health risks caused by pollution and contaminants in Pōkaʻī Bay due to runoff containing industrial pollutants, illegal dumping of dredged materials, and bacteria from members of the public bathing at the bay.

Before discussing ways in which to increase water circulation in Pōkaʻī Bay, the Department believes that a water quality assessment is needed which is beyond the Department's expertise and jurisdiction. In addition, Pōkaʻī Bay Beach Park is under the jurisdiction of the City and County of Honolulu, so addressing concerns with shower runoff affecting sand and water quality at Pōkaʻī at the bay would require their participation.

After a water quality assessment is completed and if improved water circulation is deemed necessary, the Department can work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or acquire the services of a consultant to conduct studies on a possible reconfiguration of the offshore

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

breakwater. The study would likely assess the structural integrity of the breakwater if redesigned, as well a movement of sand when high surf enters the bay. These studies will require funding, and unfortunately, the Department is unable to support such an effort with our existing operational funds. We respectfully ask that funding be provided to support this effort.

Lastly, the Department notes that it is working to address the issue of boats being moored in the bay for longer than permitted. We are actively working to address this issue through administrative rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 3:52 PM
To: WTL Testimony
Cc: creighton.higa@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR34 on Mar 24, 2017 14:46PM

SR34

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Mar 24, 2017 14:46PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C. Pono Higa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is C. Pono Higa and I am testifying in support of the intent of SR34 and its companion HR122 because Pokai Bay is a place of significant social, recreational, and cultural importance to the people of Waianae. Further, the health and safety hazards addressed in SR34 and HR122 warrant, at a minimum, an investigation into the pollutants and quality of the sea water, as well as the surrounding area. If such study finds pollutants in the sea water and/or surrounding area with adverse affects to people, sea life, and ecosystem; action must be taken immediately to mitigate such. Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Cc: maleshimabukuro@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR88 on Mar 24, 2017 14:46PM
Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 1:56:34 PM

SCR88

Submitted on: 3/22/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Mar 24, 2017 14:46PM in Conference Room 224

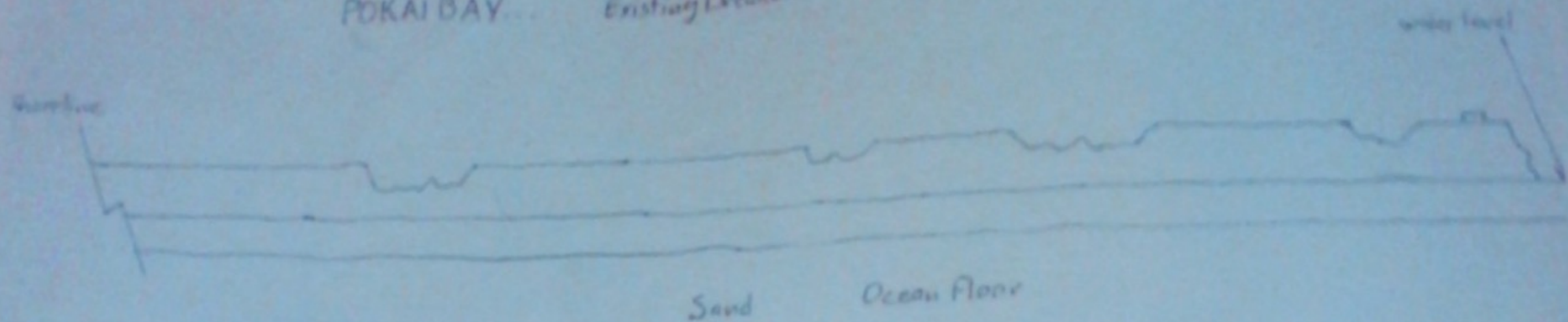
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hanale Hopfe	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: IN SUPPORT OF SCR 88 / SR 34 and HCR 194 / HR 122. I'm a lifetime resident and Konohiki from Waianae Moku. I have Health as well as Environmental concern's. As you may well know that Pokai Bay is highly used by People in our Community as well as the rest of Oahu for numerous occasions. For example, family outings/reunions, picnics, Church outings/baptisms, therapy /exercising, Water Safety, Lifeguard training & rescue; Sports uses like canoe paddling/racing, standup paddling and swimming. I know for a Fact that the Water there is Polluted and has Staff a Flesh Eating Bacteria. Some friends & others that have been infected/affected by this Awful Bacteria including myself. I know that there is a Benefit Pkg. for improving Waianae. I'm sharing in hopes that we can address this issue. We need to Clean the Water!! I have an idea that would address Health and Environmental concerns. I have The Solution that addresses these Concerns and feel that it would be Beneficial to our People's Health and Environment Now and in the Future. I feel that it would be worth the investment. I have the Ideas and a drawing (see attached) to serve as visual aid to address these concerns but not the Resources...Funding. I'm willing to work with you and your staff as well and the Army Corp. of Engineers. Please consider this as something that you want to do..... and let's make it happen ! Mahalo, Hanale Hopfe

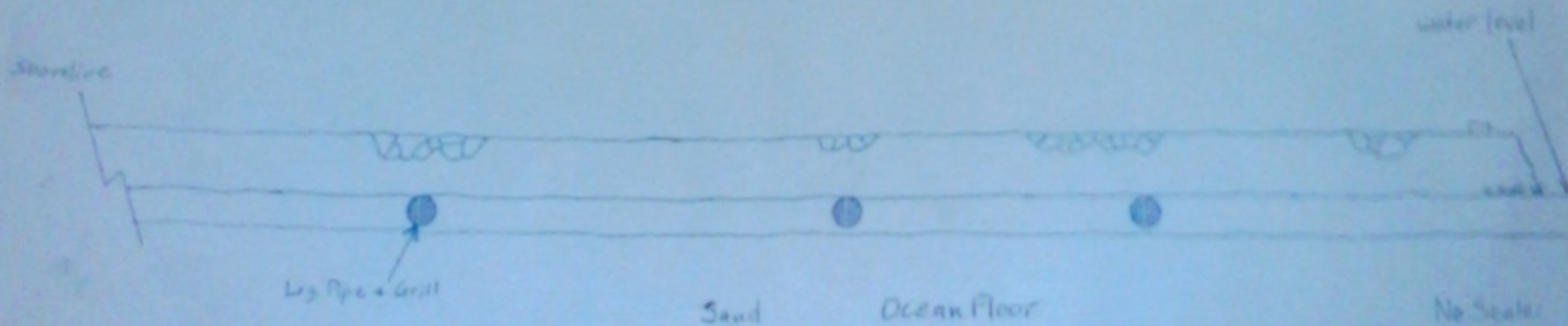
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POKAI BAY... Existing Breakwall



POKAI BAY... Repaired Breakwall



Desiré DeSoto

84-072 Makau St, Makaha, Hawaii 96792 | desiremakaha@gmail.com

Senate Committee on Water and Land & Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Friday, March 25, 2017

2:26PM Room 312

In SUPPORT of SR34 Relating to Generating Circulation in Poka'i Bay

Aloha Chairman Rhoads, Chairman Gabbard and members of the committees of water & land, and agriculture & environment,

I strongly SUPPORT SR34 relating to collaboration in generating circulation system in Poka'i, Bay.

Poka'i Bay has become a poisoned due to the economic and environmental stressors that have continued to assault the Wai'anae community since colonization. Poka'i Bay has traditionally acted as a hub for the people of Wai'anae. Besides being the home of Ku'ilioloa Navigational Heiau, Poka'i Bay is host to an array of family and community gatherings as well as land and ocean leisure sports and activities. However, most recently ramifications of stagnant water are compounding with illegal dumping upstream and creating an unsafe environment for Poka'i Bay users. My father has been treated for staph four times within the last two years. Meanwhile, sixteen of his friends have also been treated for staph infections linked to Poka'i Bay. Records from Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center and Kaiser's Nanaikeloa Clinic should corroborate the high number of staph infections related to contact with Poka'i Bay.

SR34 must be SUPPORTED because it is time to do the right thing and take care of an island treasure that is growing harmful bacteria and negatively impacting the short- and long-term health and wellness of Wai'anae community members who use Poka'i Bay regularly.

Sincerely,

Desiré DeSoto